

I am very strongly opposed to the adoption of the "broadcast" flag to prevent fair use of digital broadcast television. I own a ReplayTV personal digital video recorder, and have found it indispensable to our TV-watching lifestyle. I often transfer shows over to my computer so that I can watch them while I work, allowing my wife to watch what she wants on her screen. The quality is excellent, and much more convenient than VCR programming.

In addition, I occasionally transfer 30-60 minute episodes of shows to my PocketPC, which I then watch while travelling to work on Metro. The broadcast flag would prevent me from doing so, a fair use right I believe I have.

I'd also like you to know that we own and have purchased over 250 DVDs in our movie collection. While I do own a DVD burner and use it to archive some of our recorded shows (there is limited space on the ReplayTV box), they typically are shows which will never be available on DVD. You should also be aware that we have purchased several TV series DVD sets that have become commercially available. Why? The quality is better, it is far more convenient than burning my own discs, and the added special features have made it worth it.

I am opposed to any heavy-handed FCC regulations that would cater to the "big money" entertainment industry and forsake the "fair use" provisions of current and emerging technologies, which are only of benefit to consumers. This "broadcast flag" would change how I can use my equipment, rendering it useless.

I remind you of your primary responsibility to the general public, and not to special interests, and strongly urge you to abandon efforts to force this unwanted restriction onto American viewers.

Sincerely,

Gary Pupurs
Montgomery Village, MD